

Reconsideration and Amendment  
Serial No. 10/717,055

Docket No. 5000-1-491

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

*Please amend the Abstract of Disclosure as follows:*

An add/drop module is disclosed including a first circulator, having first through third ports that are connected to an external optical fiber, the first circulator outputting an optical signal, input to the first port, to the second port and outputting an optical signal, input to the second port, to the third port, an optical multiplexer/demultiplexer having a multiplexing port connected to the second port of the first circulator, and adapted to provide a passage for the optical signal, and a plurality of demultiplexing ports respectively adapted to provide passages for demultiplexed channels associated therewith, and a plurality of add/drop units. Each add/drop unit further includes a second circulator having first through third ports, a second port thereof being connected to an associated one of the demultiplexing ports, and an optical switch having first through fourth ports. The first port being connected to the third port of the second circulator, and at the third port to the first port of the second circulator, the first port of the optical switch being selectively connected with or the third port of the optical switch to establish a path for a channel to be passed or with the fourth port of the optical switch to establish a path for a channel to be dropped, the second port of the optical switch being selectively connected with the third port of the optical switch to establish a path for a channel to be

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added.

*Please amend the disclosure as follows:*

Beginning on page 4, line 1:

The CIR21 143 has first through third ports 1431 to 1433. The CIR21 143 is connected at its second port 1432 to the third port 1413 of the SW1 141. The CIR21 143 outputs the first channel  $\lambda_1$ , input to its second port 1432, to its third port 1433, thereby dropping the first channel  $\lambda_1$ . The CIR21 143 also outputs another first channel  $\lambda_1$ , input to its first port 1431, to its second port 1432, thereby adding the first channel  $\lambda_1$ . The CIR21 143 is a wavelength-independent element, so that it operates to output an optical signal, input to a higher-order port thereof, to a lower-order port thereof arranged adjacent to the higher-order port.